



National Institute of Standards & Technology

Certificate of Analysis

Standard Reference Material[®] 2576

Lead Paint Film

For Portable X-Ray Fluorescence Analyzers – Nominal 5.6 mg/cm² (Color Code: Blue)

This Standard Reference Material (SRM) is intended for checking the calibration of portable, hand-held, x-ray fluorescence analyzers when testing for lead in paint coatings on interior and exterior building surfaces. A unit of SRM 2576 consists of a white polyester sheet, approximately 7.6 cm wide, 10.2 cm long, and 0.2 mm thick, coated with a single, blue-colored paint layer, approximately 0.04 mm thick. A blank, SRM 2570, is also provided. The blank is coated with a lead-free, lacquer layer on a white polyester sheet of the same thickness as the lead paint samples. All sheets are over-coated with a clear, thin, plastic laminate to protect the surface from abrasion.

Table 1. Certified Lead Value

| Level | Color Code | Lead Concentration, in mg/cm ² |
|----------|------------|---|
| SRM 2576 | Blue | 5.59 ± 0.59 |

The certified value for lead for this SRM is based on measurements by isotope dilution inductively-coupled plasma mass spectrometry. The uncertainty in the certified value is expressed as an expanded uncertainty, U , at the 95 % level of confidence and is calculated according to the method described in the ISO Guide to the Expression of Uncertainty in Measurement [1,2]. Because of variability in the paint film between different sheets of the SRM, the uncertainty is a 95 % prediction interval. The expanded uncertainty is calculated as $U = ku_c$, where u_c is intended to represent, at the level of one standard deviation, the combined uncertainty due to material variability and measurement uncertainty. The coverage factor, k , is determined from the Student's t -distribution corresponding to the calculated effective degrees of freedom and 95 % level of confidence.

Expiration of Certification: The certification of this SRM is valid until **01 July 2009**, within the uncertainty specified provided the SRM is handled and stored in accordance with the instructions given in this certificate (see Use and Handling). However, the certification will be nullified if the SRM is damaged, contaminated, or otherwise modified.

The overall direction and coordination of the analytical measurements leading to certification were performed by G.C. Turk and J.D. Fassett of the NIST Analytical Chemistry Division. Analytical measurements were performed by K.E. Murphy, J.R. Sieber, A.F. Marlow, L.J. Wood, P.R. Seo, and M. Lankosz of the NIST Analytical Chemistry Division. The SRM was fabricated under the direction of J.R. Sieber of the NIST Analytical Chemistry Division.

Statistical consultation for this SRM was provided by E.S. Lagergren and N.F. Zhang of the NIST Statistical Engineering Division.

The support aspects involved in the preparation, certification, and issuance of this SRM were coordinated through the NIST Standard Reference Materials Program by B. S. MacDonald.

Willie E. May, Chief
Analytical Chemistry Division

Gaithersburg, MD 20899
Certificate Issue Date: 29 November 1999

Thomas E. Gills, Director
Office of Measurement Services

NOTICE AND WARNING TO USERS

NOTE: This SRM contains lead carbonate, which is toxic and a suspected carcinogen to the lung and kidney. The SRM must be handled with care and disposed of according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) practices and procedures.

Use and Handling: For use, the SRM sheet must first be removed from the plastic sleeve in which it is stored and then positioned so that the side labeled with the NIST logo and SRM number faces the x-ray source. For best results, the size of the x-ray beam from the field unit should irradiate an area of the SRM that is at least 2.5 cm in diameter and is centered on the sheet. Care must be exercised not to compromise the protective plastic laminate which prevents scratching or chipping of the painted surface and the potential release of dust containing lead. Upon completion of the measurement, the SRM must be re-stored in the plastic sleeve provided. It is also recommended that this SRM be stored indoors at ambient room temperature and away from direct sunlight when not in use.

Stability: This SRM is considered to be stable during the period of certification. NIST will monitor the SRM and will report any significant changes in certification to the purchaser. Return of the attached registration card will facilitate notification.

PREPARATION

SRM Preparation: The paint-coated, polyester sheets were prepared by an automated coating process at a commercial facility under contract to NIST. Known concentrations of a lead carbonate pigment were dispersed in a commercial paint vehicle to prepare the lead paint. A lead-free, organic tint was added to the paint mixture to give the desired color. A thin, protective overlay of plastic laminate was applied to each paint film. The attenuation of lead $L_{3-}M_{4,5}$ ($L\alpha_{1,2}$) x-rays due to the protective overlay does not exceed 2 % relative, while that of K- $L_{2,3}$ ($K\alpha_{1,2}$) x-rays commonly used for field measurement is negligible.

REFERENCES

- [1] *Guide to the Expression of Uncertainty in Measurement*, ISBN 92-67-10188-9, 1st Ed., ISO, Geneva, Switzerland, (1993); see also Taylor, B.N. and Kuyatt, C.E., "Guidelines for Evaluating and Expressing the Uncertainty of NIST Measurement Results," NIST Technical Note 1297, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington DC, (1994); (available at <http://physics.nist.gov/Pubs/>).
- [2] Hahn, G.J. and Meeker, W.Q., "Statistical Intervals: A Guide for Practitioners," John Wiley & Sons, Inc., New York, NY, (1991).

Users of this SRM should ensure that the certificate in their possession is current. This can be accomplished by contacting the SRM Program at: Telephone (301) 975-6776 (select "Certificates"), Fax (301) 926-4751, e-mail srminfo@nist.gov, or via the Internet <http://ts.nist.gov/srm>.